

REMARKS

The application currently contains claims 1-6, 8-9, 16-29 and 36.

DRAWINGS

Examiner states that some of the features in the claims are not shown in the drawings.

As to the “dual functionality external fuel tank carrier pylon”, it is found in the drawings as the receiver pylon 122 of figure 1.

As to the “single functionality external fuel tank carrier pylon”, it is found in the drawings as the supplier pylon 120 of figure 1.

As to the “Stores Transfer Kit”, it is shown in amended figure 6. As noted in the description of figure 1, “the STK includes fuel lines, compressed air lines, optional power lines and optional data control lines that connect the supplier pylon 102 and the receiver pylon 104” (Para. 33, page 5). Figure 6 shows the elements of the STK. The amendment of figure 6 is the addition of the number 600 to disclose the STK, as well as change in the specification.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Examiner stated that claims 4 and 18 require grammatically corrections. Applicant amended the typing mistakes of claims 4 and 18 accordingly.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 USC 112

The application contains claims 1-6, 8-9, 16-27 and 36. Claims 10-12, 28-29 have been cancelled with prejudice. Claims 1-4, 16-18 have been amended.

In section 4 of the Office Communication, the Examiner states that the subject matter disclosed in claims 28 and 29 is not described in the specification in such a way to enable one skilled in the art to make and/or use the invention. Applicant hereby cancels claims 28 and 29.

In section 5 of the Office Communication, the Examiner rejects claims 1-6, 8-12, 16-29 and 36 as being indefinite. Applicant amended claims 1-3 and 16-17 to clarify the definiteness of the claims.

As to claim 1, the single functionality external fuel tank carrier pylon is now disclosed before the dual single functionality external fuel tank carrier pylon. As such, the second reference to the single functionality external fuel tank carrier refers to the first reference of the same using the word "the". As to the term "pylon" in line 24 of claim 1, Applicant refers to the at least one single functionality external fuel tank carrier pylon which is not connected to the fuel system of the aerial vehicle. The elements of the Stores Transfer Kit enable connection of the external fuel tank to the fuel system of the aerial vehicle.

As to claim 2, the claim discloses that the dual functionality external fuel tank carrier pylon comprises three pairs of elements - fuel connector, compressed air connector and electric power and signal connector. One connector of each pair links the aerial vehicle fuel system while the other connector of each pair links the externally mounted Stores Transfer Kit. As a result, applicant added the terms "*first*" and "*second*" to distinguish between each connector of the pairs.

As to claim 16, Applicant removed the term "*standard*" to clarify that the dual functionality external fuel tank carrier pylon can be any external fuel tank carrier pylon converted to dual functionality role.

As to claim 17, Applicant removed the term "*novel*" and added text that clarify that the dual functionality external fuel tank carrier pylon is specifically designed for the purposes disclosed in the claims.

As to claim 3, Applicant amended the claim to conform to antecedent basis requirements.

Applicant performed corrections to prepare the claims for allowance, and believes the amendments do not create any additional burden on the Examiner.

Examiner is hereby requested to allow the claims.

Respectably submitted

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